

Common Core Standards Fact Sheet

Home Schools and Student Data Collection

Are home school parents and students required to adopt the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) and develop a curriculum to align with the CCSS?

No. Home school parents /guardians and students are not required to adopt, develop a curriculum, or follow the Common Core State Standards.

Michigan Law governing compulsory attendance (MCL 380.1561) requires a parent or guardian to send a child to public school unless the child is being educated at the child's home by his or her parent or legal guardian or is being taught in a state-approved nonpublic school.

Home school students are not required to participate in state assessments such as the Smarter Balanced Assessments.

Does the CCSS require home school parents and students to register with the Michigan Department of Education?

No. Home school education is the responsibility of the parent or legal guardian.

The above mentioned law and the rights of parents and guardians to educate their child in a home setting or at a nonpublic school did not change when the Michigan State Board of Education adopted the Common Core State Standards in June 2010.

In addition, the annual registration of a home school to the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) is voluntary. It is not required unless the student has special needs and is requesting special education services from the local public or intermediate school district. Again, this did not change with the adoption of the CCSS.

Student Data Collection

Will answers to Smarter Balanced Assessments be stored individually for each student?

Yes. Answers to Smarter Balanced test items will be collected and securely stored for individual students. This is necessary to compile and provide accurate achievement reports for students, educators and parents.

Who will have access to data collected

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from Smarter Balanced Assessments?

Only State Education Agencies such as MDE will have access to Smarter Balanced tests data that is connected to individual students. Districts and educators will have access to student-identifiable data for the students they are responsible for serving, as currently is the practice with statewide testing.

Does the Federal Government or other third parties have access to individual student answers?

No. The federal government is only provided with aggregate, summary data that does not include individual student scores or any way to identify individual students. If the federal government, or any other third party, such as researchers, were to request any such data, it would only be provided in a manner such that individual students cannot be identified. States are required to guarantee this level of individual student data privacy under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

What specifically is being done ensure individual student data and privacy is

protected?

Michigan collects individual student-level data and has since 2002 through the Center for Educational Performance and Information (CEPI), which is housed in the Department of Technology, Management and Budget. All data are collected, stored, and shared in a manner that is fully FERPA compliant. Neither Smarter Balanced nor Michigan will provide data to third parties for purposes unrelated directly to intended educational uses.